

**BREDBURY AND ROMILEY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
(CHESHIRE)**



**MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH'S
REPORT**

*for the Year ended
31st December, 1948*



BREDBURY and ROMILEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
(CHESHIRE)



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the year ended 31st December, 1948.

The Public Health Officers of the Authority are :

ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
From September, 1947, to February, 1949

Dr. WILLIAM LEE, M.B., Ch.B.

Dr C. G. K. THOMPSON, M.B., D.P.H.
Appointed Medical Officer of Health, 3rd December, 1948

SANITARY INSPECTOR (whole time)

ROBERT WM. MUSK, M.S.I.A.

Council Offices, Bredbury — Tel. WOO 2213
After 5 p.m. (Residence) — Tel. WOO 2348

CLERK AND ASSISTANT TO SANITARY INSPECTOR (whole time)
JOHN ASHWORTH.

To the Chairman and Members of the District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1948

INTRODUCTION.

The most interesting fact about this Report is concerning the Birth Rate for the District. There is a very marked drop from 20·57 per thousand to 15·21 per thousand. Again, as usually occurs with a fall in the Birth Rate, the Infant Mortality Rate has not only fallen but is the lowest by far on record, i.e., from 36·93 to 11·32. The Infant Mortality Rate is usually regarded as a reliable index of the health of the child-bearing women of the younger generation and Hygienic state of the area.

In big industrial cities the Infant Mortality Rate is usually anything up to 50, but this has been steadily falling since 1941. This is in the main due, it is thought, to the Government's wise policy during war years and since in giving adequate diet to mothers and children and keeping down the cost of food. Other factors too, chief of which is the increasing care given by Local Health Authorities to mothers and children at the Welfare Centres, and the operation of many other factors of social medicine. It should also be pointed out that with small populations one death makes a deal of difference. For instance, in 1948 there were three deaths out of 265, giving a rate of 11·32 per thousand—one more death would have raised the figure to 15. It is a case for satisfaction that this extra death did not occur and that the Infant Mortality Rate is so low. Again, with regard to Maternal Mortality, there is reason for satisfaction. No mother belonging to the district died in childbirth. Thus, taking into account the number of deaths from these causes before the war, Bredbury and Romiley have advanced well along the road of Preventative Medicine, one of whose aims is to eradicate such distressing avoidable deaths.

Deaths other than Maternal and Infant show a distinct drop, but the main causes, Cancer and Heart Disease are reduced in proportion. There were no deaths from Infectious Diseases, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis, from which 3 males died during the year.

HOUSING.

The shortage of houses is still trying, because of the resultant overcrowding. Overcrowding is an evil not recognised as such by a large section of the public, but it makes for bad Public Health. The main effect of it is an adverse one on the newly-weds and young families. It is affecting the birthrate because most young couples put off starting a family until they are on their own. Throughout the country it has an insidious cancerous effect on the happiness of newly-weds and puts a great strain on their relationship which in turn is very severe on the children should there be any. No child can develop normally and happily in an atmosphere of wrangling and disharmony, nor for that matter when it has grandmothers and relatives taking part in its management.

It would be as well to record here a disapproval of the attitude of young married mothers who are showing a desire to go out and work and leave the care of a child to a Nursery or some relative. The responsibility for a child is the mother's and for her to desire to shed that responsibility deserves the greatest condemnation. It is probable, however, that the atmosphere of a place of employment is preferable to that of an overcrowded home where the mother is there on sufferance.

On the whole, the Health Committee can feel satisfied that progress is being made and that from the health point of view Bredbury and Romiley is a good District.

C. G. K. THOMPSON,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres:—

Bredbury Ward (which includes Woodley and Brinnington)	...	2,786
Romiley (which includes Chadkirk)	... ..	1,183
Compstall	... ..	784
Total Area in Acres	...	4,753

Estimated population at end of 1948	...	17,420
Rateable value, December, 1948	...	£100,000
Estimated product of Penny Rate	...	£400
New houses entered in rate book during 1948	...	100
Number of empty houses in district	...	Nil.

Description.

A great deal of the area, particularly in Romiley, is residential in character. This section of the community is engaged chiefly in business in Manchester and the surrounding towns.

Local industry is largely confined to Bredbury and whilst the area is consequently more industrial in type, it is preserved from the usual attendant of ugliness by reason of the many open spaces, much of it farmland. The chief work places include a large Steel Works, Brick Yard, Cotton Mill, Hatting Works, Butchers' Yards and a large Laundry.

PLANNING, 1948

The first day of July, 1948, was a "red letter day" for those interested in Planning. The old East Cheshire Regional Planning Committee disappeared and was substituted by the North East Cheshire Area Planning Committee which is under the superintendence of the Cheshire County Council. Powers are delegated to "County Districts" by agreement with the County Council and the Districts concerned, viz. :—

The Municipal Boroughs of Dukinfield, Hyde, Stalybridge.

The Urban Districts of Bredbury and Romiley, Hazel Grove and Bramhall, Longdendale, Marple.

The Rural Districts of Disley and Tintwistle.

The Area Planning Officer is Mr. P. B. Mountford and the offices are situated at 80 Churchgate, Stockport.

The following is a brief summary of the work carried out by the Area Planning Officer :—

Development Control—Appeals.

Design and External appearance.

Local Authorities' Housing Schemes.

Surveys for Development Plans.

Buildings of Special Architectural and Historic interest.

The Central Land Board, whose Regional Office is in Princess Street, Manchester.

All plans for alterations and improvements are sent to the Central Land Board who assess the amount of Development Charge (if any) payable in each case.

The Land Board received a tremendous number of "forms" on or before the 1st July—a harvest for the various professions associated with Planning.

OPEN SPACES.

Ward	Existing public open spaces	Land owned by the Council and reserved as proposed public open spaces	Other land previously reserved as proposed public open spaces	Proposed public open spaces in the form of Park-ways along main roads
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Bredbury	31'41	65'79	241'21	40'33
Romiley	5'96	35'95	48'94	3'20
Compstall	2'04	—	—	—
TOTALS	39'41	101'74	290'15	43'53

The amount of existing public open spaces in the district in the form of parks, recreation grounds, etc., is approximately 40 acres, whilst further areas amounting to over 100 acres are at present owned by the Council, and are reserved in the Planning Schemes or proposed public open spaces. This means that Bredbury and Romiley will have more than 8 acres of public open spaces per 1,000 population in the very near future, and so exceeds the minimum figure of 7 acres per 1,000 quoted by many planning authorities.

BIRTHS.

Births registered within the District :

				Males		Females		Totals
Bredbury ...	...	...	...	50	.....	46	.....	96
Romiley ...	...	...	...	17	.....	17	.....	34
Compstall	...	...	...	1	.....	1	.....	2
Totals	...	...	...	68	.....	64	.....	132

Births registered outside the District :

Bredbury, Romiley and Compstall ... Males 65, Females 68, Total 133.

Total number of live births belonging to District ... 265.

Still births for the District were :

Legitimate Males 6, Females 1. Illegitimate Males 1, Females Nil. Total 8

Birth rate per 1,000 population ... 15·21.

Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births ... 29·30.

DEATHS.

Deaths registered in District of people belonging thereto :

				Males		Females		Totals
Bredbury...	...	...	...	27	.....	36	.....	63
Romiley ...	...	...	...	19	.....	22	.....	41
Compstall	...	...	...	1	.....	1	.....	2
Total	...	...	...	47	.....	59	.....	106

Registered Elsewhere :

Bredbury, Romiley and Compstall ... Males 30, Females 29. Total 59.

Total of whole District ... Males 77, Females 88. Total 165.

Death rate per 1,000 population ... 9·47.

(a) Death from Puerperal Sepsis ... Nil.

(b) Other puerperal causes ... Nil.

Infantile mortality :

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age ... Males 3. Females Nil. Total 3.

Legitimate...Males 3, Females Nil. Illegitimate...Males Nil, Females Nil.

Rates :

Maternal Mortality ... Nil.

Infantile Mortality Rate ... 11·32

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 26·92

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... 0·00

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... Males 10, Females 14. Total 24

„ „ Measles (all ages) ... Nil.

„ „ Whooping Cough ... Nil.

„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... Nil.

VITAL STATISTICS.

(a) Births 1939-1948

Year	Population (estimated) to Mid-year	LIVE BIRTHS				STILL BIRTHS				
		Total	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Rate per 1000 pop	Total	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Rate per 1000 pop	Rate per 1,000 Live and Still births
1939	15,790	231	226	5	14.62	14	14	—	0.88	57.14
1940	16,090	233	228	5	14.48	8	8	—	0.53	35.15
1941	16,400	232	227	5	14.14	9	9	—	0.54	37.34
1942	16,050	263	251	12	16.4	14	14	—	0.87	50.55
1943	15,790	284	275	9	18.0	7	7	—	0.44	24.05
1944	15,910	307	298	9	19.0	11	11	—	0.68	34.59
1945	15,960	309	295	14	19.31	6	6	—	0.37	19.04
1946	16,780	307	290	17	18.30	13	13	—	0.77	40.62
1947	17,110	352	338	14	20.57	7	7	—	0.45	19.50
1948	17,420	265	260	5	15.21	8	7	1	0.45	28.30

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth Rates, Civilian Death rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and cross rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1948. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 C.B.s and Great Towns including London	148 smaller towns (Res. Pop. 25,000—50,000) at 1931 Census	London Admin. County	Bredbury and Romiley U.D.C.
Births					
Live Births	17·9 (a)	20·0	19·2	20·1	15·21
Still Births.....	0·42 (a)	0·52	0·43	0·39	0·46
Deaths					
All causes	10·8 (a)	11·6	10·7	11·6	9·47
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Whooping Cough...	0·02	0·02	0·02	0·01	0·00
Diphtheria.....	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·01	0·00
Tuberculosis	0·51	0·59	0·46	0·63	0·17
Influenza...	0·03	0·03	0·04	0·02	0·00
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·00	0·00
Pneumonia	0·41	0·38	0·01	0·54	0·34
Notifications corrected					
Typhoid Fever	0·01	0·00	0·01	0·00	0·00
Paratyphoid Fever	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·00
Cerebro-spinal					
Fever	0·03	0·03	0·02	0·03	0·00
Scarlet Fever	1·73	1·90	1·82	1·37	0·00
Whooping Cough...	3·42	3·51	3·31	3·13	0·00
Diphtheria.....	0·08	0·10	0·09	0·10	0·00
Erysipelis	0·21	0·23	0·21	0·22	0·00
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	9·34	9·75	8·84	9·17	0·00
Pneumonia.....	0·73	0·84	0·60	0·57	0·34
Acute Poliomyelitis	0·04	0·05	0·04	0·04	0·00
Acute Polioencephalitis ...	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	—
Deaths	Rates per	1,000 live	Births		
All cases under 1 yr.	34 (b)	39	32	31	3
Enteritis and Diarrhoea	3·3	4·5	2·1	2·4	0·00
Under 2 years	Rates per	1,000 total	(live and still)	Births	
Notifications corrected					
Puerperal Fever and Pyreria	6·89	8·90	4·71	7·34 (c)	0·00

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES

				Rates per 1,000 Total (live & still) Births		Rates per million women aged 15-44
140	Abortion with Sepsis	...	...	0·11	.....	9
141	Abortion without Sepsis	...	...	0·05	.....	4
147	Puerperal Infections	...	...	0·13	.....	—
142-146, 148-150,	other maternal causes...			0·73	.....	—

(a) Rates per 1,000 total population.

(b) Per 1,000 related births.

(c) In London Puerperal Fever alone was 0·61.

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS, 1941—1948

No.	Cause of Death	1941		1942		1943		1944		1945		1946		1947		1948	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1.	Typhoid and Para-Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	T.B. of Resp. System	3	4	4	3	6	1	3	—	5	1	3	1	4	3	3	—
7.	Other forms of T.B.	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
8.	Syphilis Diseases.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
9.	Influenza	1	1	—	—	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	—
10.	Measles.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11.	Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	A.C. Infectious Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of Buccal Cavity (M), Cancer Uterus (F).....	1	3	4	2	3	4	—	3	—	3	2	3	1	2	1	1
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum.....	5	2	4	2	3	1	5	2	2	6	7	2	7	2	2	3
15.	Cancer of breast.....	—	5	—	2	—	4	—	2	—	3	—	2	—	6	—	4
16.	Cancer of all other sites	7	6	8	3	12	11	7	9	12	11	13	6	9	7	7	6
17.	Diabetes	1	1	2	2	—	1	—	1	1	2	—	4	1	1	—	1
18.	Intracranial Vascular Lesion	8	9	5	13	9	13	10	8	8	10	6	8	11	15	7	14
19.	Heart Disease.....	25	32	18	13	27	30	21	19	32	17	28	19	31	28	24	22
20.	Other diseases of Circulatory System.....	4	2	2	2	1	1	2	4	2	5	3	3	6	4	3	6
21.	Bronchitis	8	4	5	7	9	6	12	6	9	9	10	5	6	8	8	5

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS, 1941-1948 (continued)

No.	Cause of Death	1941		1942		1943		1944		1945		1946		1947		1948	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
22.	Pneumonia	4	2	3	3	4	7	9	1	5	1	5	2	5	3	5	1
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	3	—	2	—	2	1	1	1	4	—	2	—	—	1	3	2
24.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	1	2	1	1	—	1	—
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	—	2	1	2	1	1	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	1	1	—	3	2	6	1	2	1	—	—	6	1	1	1	5
28.	Nephritis	7	2	3	3	8	2	1	3	4	—	4	2	4	2	2	6
29.	Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
31.	Premature Birth	2	1	4	1	3	6	3	4	1	2	1	1	—	1	1	—
32.	Congenital Malformation Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
33.	Suicide	4	1	—	2	1	1	1	—	1	—	2	1	1	1	—	3
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—
35.	Other Violent Causes	3	1	2	1	—	—	2	—	3	2	1	—	3	—	2	1
36.	All other causes	8	9	7	6	3	8	15	6	6	8	7	11	10	8	6	8
	All Causes	100	90	80	74	101	111	102	78	107	85	101	83	110	98	77	88

The numbers in the left hand column refer to the Registrar.

General Short List based on the fifth (1938) Revisor of the International Causes of Death.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) **Laboratory Facilities.**

- (1) The Bacteriological Examinations of Food, Milk, Water, Ice Cream and materials from patients formerly done by the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester, are now carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester (since July 5th, 1948). During the year the following examinations were made :—

	Positive		Negative		Total
Swabs for Diphtheria.....	Nil	.....	Nil	.....	Nil
Swabs for Scarlet Fever.....	Nil	.....	Nil	.....	Nil
Fæces for Dysentery	Nil	.....	Nil	.....	Nil
Milk for Tuberculosis.....	Nil	.....	20	.....	20

- (2) The Laboratory of the Cheshire County Council carried out the following examinations :—

Sputum for Tuberculosis Positive 7 ... Negative 25 ... Total 32

- (b) **Ambulance Service.** A Joint Committee representing Hyde, Bredbury and Romiley, Denton and Longdendale, administered this service until the 4th July, 1948. The scheme has been in operation since November, 1945, and continues to be very efficient and satisfactory. The service is free to all residents. Hyde Isolation Hospital Ambulance service is available for cases of infectious diseases. As from the 5th July, 1948, the service was taken over by the Divisional Health Committee.
- (c) **Nursing in the Home.** Two Nursing Associations, one at Bredbury and one at Romiley who employ 3 District Nurses. These were taken over by the Divisional Health Committee as from the 5th July, 1948.
- (d) **Clinics and Treatment Centres.** The Day Nursery provided during the war by the County Council in the Bredbury area is still in use and satisfies the local demand. Welfare Centres are held weekly at both Bredbury and Romiley and continue to work satisfactorily. Immunisation against Diphtheria is also carried out at these Centres twice during any month.
- (e) **Hospitals.** The hospitals serving the district are the Stockport Infirmary, Manchester Royal Infirmary, Royal Eye Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital and the skin diseases hospital, Manchester. V.D. Clinics are available in Stockport and Manchester, The Convalescent Home and Hospital at Hazel Grove and the Hospital of the Public Assistance Committee at Shaw Heath are available for necessitous cases, whilst difficult cases occurring during pregnancy and parturition are received at Stepping Hill Hospital. Nine beds were retained at the Isolation Hospital, Hyde, for patients from the district suffering from infectious diseases up to 4th July, 1948.
- (f) **Maternal Mortality.** Investigations carried out by the Cheshire County Council.
- (g) **Regional Smallpox Accommodation.** The Regional Hospital Board has approved a scheme for provision of accommodation for the isolation of smallpox. The following hospitals will be retained on a care and maintenance basis for the immediate isolation of smallpox and doubtful cases from the whole region :—
1. Elswick Leys Smallpox Hospital, Elswick Leys. (30 beds).
 2. Ainsworth Smallpox Hospital, New Bury (40 beds).
- (h) **Mass Miniature Radiography Unit.** Arrangements were made by Doctor J. D. Paterson of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board for the above Unit to visit this district. The Unit was established at the premises of Exors. of James Mills Ltd., Bredbury, and stayed for a period of four

weeks, during which time employees of the Council and of firms in the area were given the opportunity of attending for examination for tuberculosis infection, and a large proportion of staff and workmen attended

It is pleasing to note that no cases from the employees of the Council were found to be infected with tuberculosis.

LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS AND BY-LAWS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

1. Common Lodging Houses	.....	Confirmed 11th October, 1886
2. Slaughter Houses	.....	" 11th May, 1916
3. Nuisances	.....	" 11th October, 1886
4. Offensive Trades	.....	" 8th February, 1901
5. New Streets and Buildings	.....	" 19th August, 1926
6. Recreation Grounds	.....	" 5th January, 1932
7. Houses let in Lodgings	.....	" 24th January, 1934
8. Allotment Rules	.....	" 17th July, 1922
9. Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933	.....	" 4th December, 1933
10. Buildings Public Health Act, 1936	.....	" 20th September, 1939

Acts

Public Health Acts Amendment Acts, 1890. Adopted 25th November, 1896. Came into operation 1st January, 1897.

Local Government Act, 1894. Order made by the L.G.B. on 17th October, 1898, conferring on the Council the powers of appointing future Assistant Overseers; powers, duties and liabilities of the Vestry of each parish; powers etc., of Overseers; certain powers of a Parish Council not already vested in the Council, viz. :—Acquisition by agreement of rights of way, and powers of directing in what custody the books, papers and documents of each Parish shall be deposited.

Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899.

(a) Adopted 31st January, 1900. Advances made.

(b) Advances also made under Section 92 of the Housing Act, 1925.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. L.G.B. issued order on 27th September, 1909, declaring Parts II, III and V, Sections 52 to 66 inclusive, and Section 68 of Part IV and Sections 93 and 95 of Part X, to be in force in the district on and after 15th November, 1909.

Public Health Act, 1925. Minister of Health consented to the adoption by the Council of Section 21 (prevention of water flowing on the footpath) Section 22 (preventing soil, etc., from being washed into streets) and the Sections contained in Part V (watercourses, etc.) of the above Act—adoption to take effect on 2nd August, 1926.

Provisional Orders.

(1) For extending Bredbury, etc., 19th July, 1880. 13th September, 1902, Brinnington added to Bredbury.

(2) (a) Land at Lower Bredbury for Sewage Disposal, 3rd July, 1894.

(b) Land at Lower Bredbury for Pumping Station, 15th July, 1897.

(3) The Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 1) Act, 1900. (Bredbury and Romiley U.D.C. Tramways Order, 1900).

County of Chester Review Order, 1936. U.D. of Compstall added to Bredbury and Romiley.

Special Order. Bredbury and Romiley Electricity Order, 1925, (several fringe Orders obtained. Lapsed 31-3-48.

MORTUARIES.

The Council provide two small mortuaries, one situated at Stockport Road, Romiley, and one at Manor Road, Woodley.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The Council are the Water Authority.

A bulk supply is obtained from the Stockport Corporation.

Analyst's Report on Water.

GOYT VALLEY (Main supply). Tap on main outlet, filtered water.

KINDER. Filtered water, tap on Venturi Meter Chamber.

LYME PARK. Filtered water, tap on main outlet.

RESULTS. Satisfactory, both bacteriological and chemical.

Water

- (1) The water supply of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory (a) in quality (b) in quantity.
- (2) Bacteriological examinations were made monthly of the raw water and weekly of the treated water going into supply, the results being satisfactory. Chemical analyses were made monthly of the raw and treated water going into supply, the results being satisfactory.
- (3) The water is chemically treated to prevent plumbo-solvent action, with satisfactory results.
- (4) The water is filtered through mechanical filtration plant, and after filtration is chlorinated.

There are no supplies by means of stand-pipes. All supplies are direct to houses.

WATER SUPPLY

Manchester—Longdendale Supply

Report by Chief Chemist. Neutralisation with hydrated lime has been applied continually throughout the year.

Sterilisation by chloramine treatment has been applied continuously and the ammonia added in such treatment accounts for the major part of the free and saline ammonia content of the water.

The water is subject to some seasonal variations, which in the main affect the colour, turbidity and organic matter content as measured by the oxygen absorbed test. The other results are normal and satisfactory.

The bacteriological results are excellent.

Haughton Green Water Supply. The water supplied to Haughton Green is not filtered, except that it passes through fine strainers at the Godley reservoirs and also is chlorinated.

The experimental Purification Plant is being erected at Denton Reservoirs. It will be some years before any full purification scheme can be put into operation.

Plumbo-Solvency. Below are the actual results upon distribution, the water having stood in contact with the lead service overnight, i.e., for 8 hours.

Date 1948		P.H. Value		Lead content as Pb.
				parts per million
Jan.	5	.....	7.20	..... 0.3
"	26	.....	6.75	..... 0.5
March	1	.....	6.70	..... 0.4
May	18	.....	8.8	..... 0.2
Oct.	9	.....	7.10	..... 0.08
"	18	.....	7.45	..... 0.10

In the Brinnington area 41 houses are supplied direct by Stockport Corporation.

Houses without Public Water Supply.

Bredbury District (Wells and Springs, etc.)	...	26
Romiley	"	9
Compstall	"	58

Water Mains Laid, December, 1947-1948

CHERRY TREE. None.

WOODLANDS. Roads 7 and 2 up to Road 8, also Roads 1, 3 and 5.

4 in. 752 yards (Total).

6 in. 532 yards (Total).

(December, 1947-48). 4 in. 752—532 = 220 yards.

6 in. 532—348 = 184 yards.

Metriological Information.

A detailed report is supplied each year by Mr. Frank Edwards of Greave relating to Romiley and by Mr. Ronald Kerton (Sewage Works Manager) for Bredbury.

The following are the main features:—

ROMILEY. A dull, cool summer, the rainfall was about 10% in excess of the average, and most of this occurred in June, July and August. Harvesting was much delayed in consequence. The rainfall for 1948 was 39'32 inches as compared with 32'50 for 1947 and 44'11 in 1946.

BREDBURY. Total rainfall for year ... 35'5 inches.

Maximum rainfall in 24 hours on 12th January ... 1'25 inches.

Number of days with '01 inches or more ... 185.

" " " '04 inches " ... 147.

The rainfall for 1947 was 28'42 and 34'72 for 1946.

Public Cleansing. All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on Ashton Road, Bredbury. No alterations have been made with regard to the collection or disposal of refuse.

Salvage. The salvage shed and equipment has been moved from Mill Lane, and erected on the tipping site at Ashton Road, Bredbury, where one man is employed soiling and baling the salvage. No special journey is made to collect salvage. All salvage is collected with the house refuse and put in separate trailers behind the refuse waggons.

Weight and value of salvage collected during 1948 was:—

Last year		Tons	cwts	qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
541	Waste Paper.....	104	1	—	—	669	1	6
146	Books and Mags.....	16	16	1	—	197	10	11
36	Kraft Brown.....	1	18	—	—	24	14	0
114	Rags.....	10	11	2	15	153	7	8
	Carpets.....	1	17	1	9	12	2	9
6	String.....	—	8	2	15	3	12	7
26	Sacking.....	3	15	1	23	33	19	10
21	Mixed Scrap.....	7	6	—	—	15	2	10
5	Bones.....	—	15	—	15	3	11	5
7	Jam jars.....	—	16	2	—	8	5	0
Totals this year		148	5	3	21	£1121	8	6
Totals for 1947.....		125	8	1	2	£901	16	0

The tip at Mill Lane has been filled in and the land is let for sports.

The new tip at Ashton Road is now in full use.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Loads	2267	2145	2171	2083	1919	1911	1959	2253	2478	2856
Ashpits	937	1232	1072	884	877	870	957	901	937	996
Ashbins	209511	131791	119534	112774	111792	104801	106777	113175	124774	171265
Pails	9450	9672	9672	10044	9672	9496	9486	9916	10128	100761
Cesspools	19	22	20	19	20	25	20	21	20	20

Sludge Processing. The Ministry of Health on the 20th August, 1948, issued their sanction to an immediate starting date in connection with this scheme.

The formal sanction for the loan (£6,795) was issued on the 17th Sept., 1948, and the Contractor was immediately instructed to commence work on the site.

At the end of the year work on the construction of the sludge beds was well in hand.

The work included in the Contract is as follows :—

Construction of drying lagoons, drainage channels, etc., and pipe lines, railway track locomotive and trucks, together with a sludge drying shed containing grinding plant for the final treatment of the sludge.

In addition the contract includes for the erection of a workman's mess room, with washing facilities, etc.

SCHOOLS.

The provision of Type 'A' Canteens—where the meals are cooked on the premises—at Romiley Primary School and the Barrack Hill Primary School is more in evidence seeing that building work commenced during the year. Type 'A' Canteen has been provided at Compstall and this is functioning well.

SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths or pools in the district of Bredbury or Romiley. The people from the area use the public baths in the neighbouring areas of Marple, Hyde and Stockport.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

1947			1948
5407	.....	Flush Water Closets	5513
244	.....	Waste Water Closets	238
193	.....	Pail Closets	193
253	.....	Privies and Privy Middens	253
132	.....	Dry Ashpits	132
5338	.....	Sanitary Ashbins	5438
14	.....	Septic Tanks	14
8	.....	Chemical Closets	8

PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT.

The sanitary accommodation of thirteen Cinemas, Public Halls, etc., were inspected, all complied with the Regulations, and Licences were granted by the Local Authority.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The Council are members of the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee which resumed work in 1946, after suspending its activities on the outbreak of hostilities. The Committee comprises Local Authorities within a radius of 15 miles.

During the year several smoke observations were taken of factory chimneys in the district. Any contravention of the Council's Bye-laws which occur is visited by an officer of the Council for the purpose of warning, and the factory concerned is given instruction with a view to abating the nuisance.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council employ one full time Rodent Operative who works under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, his work is to carry out the duties for destruction of rats and mice in the district. During the year several contracts were made with firms who had taken contracts out in previous years, inspections are made once a month. In addition, dwelling houses are inspected and full survey is made and if signs of infestation, prebait are laid for four days and poison baits laid on the fifth day and all prebait and poison baits and bodies are removed on the sixth. After 2 or 3 weeks a post bait is laid to make sure all rats and mice are destroyed and if not prebait and poison baits of a different nature are laid. All prebait and poison baits are worked out by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Formula.

Several complaints were reported during the year and all were treated thoroughly.

Types of bait and poisons used :—

Sausage Rusks and Zinc Phosphide.	
Bread Mash and Red Squill.	
Wheat-Castor Sugar and Arsenic.	
Total estimated kill ...	2576
Actual bodies picked up ...	441
Surveys and Visits ...	429

All sewers in the district were treated twice during the year 1948

SECTION D

HOUSING

(1) Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(1) (a) Total number of houses inspected for defects (under the Public Health Act and Housing Act) ...	133
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	276
(2) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	1
(3) Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation (excluding those in previous sub-section) ...	28

(2) Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notice. Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of Informal Notice by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	48
--	----

(3) **Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—**

(a) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied by the owner ...	7
(2) Number of dwelling houses defects were remedied after serving notice	7

(4) **Proceedings under the Housing Act.**

(1) Under Section 12 of the Housing Act :—

Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

(2) Under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act up to the 31st December, 1948 :—

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made... ..	75
Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders... ..	52
Number of dwelling houses still standing in respect of which demolition orders have been made	23

(3) Under Section 9 of the Housing Act .—

Number of notices served requiring defects to be remedied by the owner	17
Number of dwelling houses defects were remedied after serving of notice	10
Number of Statutory Notices served requiring defects to be remedied	7
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notice was served on the owner and defects were remedied	7

(4) **Housing of People.**

A great deal of time has been spent by the Council on this subject.

The progress made may be considered very satisfactory. The scheme for two lay-out plans for roads and sewers have been completed. These are on the Cherry Tree Estate, Romiley, and the Woodlands Estate, Woodley, and there is ample room and convenience for the erection of a large number of houses without other street works being carried out. The position is as follows :—

CHERRY TREE ESTATE ...	102 completed and occupied. 32 in course of erection.
WOODLANDS ESTATE ...	64 completed and occupied. 40 in course of erection.

(5) **Shops.**

Plans have been approved for four shops with Flats above on Cherry Tree Estate, Romiley.

(6) **Further Accommodation.**

It is proposed to erect a further 60 Council houses and 15 houses by private enterprise during 1949.

In addition plans have been prepared and sites acquired by the Cheshire County Council for the housing of policemen in the district.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The Council keep a register of all factories in the district. There are 69 factories in the district with power and 17 factories without power. All factories were inspected during the year, and their condition was found to be very satisfactory, any defects found by the Sanitary Inspector received the full attention of the employer and the defects remedied without service of notice.

Outworkers.

(a) Number of outworkers' names received during the year	...	...	25
(b) Nature of work carried out. Making, etc., of wearing apparel	...	...	25
(c) Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises	...	...	Nil
(d) Number of inspections made of outworkers premises	...	...	33

Premises 1.	M/c line No. 2.	Number on register 3.	Inspections 4.	Number of Written notices 5.	Occupi's prosecu'd 6.	M/c line No. 7.
(i) Factories in which Sec- 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	17	107	—	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is* enforced by the Local Authority	2	69	135	—	—	2
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	3	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...		86	242	—	—	

Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars 1.	M/c line No. 2.	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecu's were instituted 7.	M/c line No. 8.
		Found 3.	Remedied 4.	Referred to H.M. Insp. 5.	by H.M. Insp. 6.		
Want of cleanliness (S1)	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temp. (S3)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate vent. (S4) ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveni's (S7)							
(a) insufficient	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
(b) unsuitable or defective	10	3	3	—	3	—	10
(c) not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offen's against the Act (not including offen- ces relating to outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Total	60	3	3	—	3	—	60

SECTION E.

MILK SUPPLY.

The Register contains 42 producers—this number includes 5 wholesalers, 37 retailers. Accredited milk is produced in 7 farms and Tuberculin Tested on 1 farm. Three supplementary licences are held by outside retailers of Pasteurised Milk.

Farms and Dairies are inspected regularly, the number of visits and revisits made were :—

Cowsheds ... 165. Dairies ... 137. Piggeries ... 21.

Samples of milk are taken monthly and tested for sediment and fat contents, the results are reported at the monthly meeting of the Public Health Committee.

Milk samples are also taken to Monsall Hospital, Newton Heath, Manchester, where examination for tuberculosis infection is carried out. During the year all samples showed no evidence of tuberculosis infection.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Slaughter houses. During 1948 five licences were granted to keep premises as slaughter houses, these were only used for the occasional slaughter of pigs.

Slaughtermen. The Council granted 16 licences to slaughter during the year 1948.

Bakehouses. Bakehouses have been visited periodically during the year. These were found to be kept in a clean and satisfactory condition. Limewashing was carried out at the prescribed times.

PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PRODUCED OR SOLD.

Eighty seven visits were made to these premises and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Food and Canned Goods condemned during the year.

3 tins of Fruit Salad. 1-12 oz. Tin of Pork Luncheon meat. 1 tin grade 3 salmon. 1 tin Potato soup. 1 tin of Calf tongue. 1-16 oz. tin grade 1 salmon. 3-16 oz. tins Baked Beans. 5 tins Evaporated milk. 36-8 oz. tins of Dried Milk. 3 tins of Pears. 3-18 oz. tins of Bacon. 5 slabs Priority Fruit Cake. 1 tin Stewed Steak. 5-3 lb. bags self raising flour. 34-16 oz. tins Ideal Evaporated Milk. 21 tins of Tomatoes. 18 lbs. Butter. 47-3½ oz. Sandwich spread. 48-3½ oz. Sandwich spread. 40 packets Fruitella Sauce. 6-12 oz. tins Veal Loaf. 35 lbs. Bacon. 12 lbs. Ham.

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

A register of 32 retailers and makers of ice cream is kept, the premises are inspected and must comply with the Regulations before being placed on the register.

The following table shows the results of examination of ice cream samples taken during the year 1948.

	Satisfactory	Uusatisfactory	Total
Manufactured and sold in the district.....	12	Nil	12
Manufactured outside the district and sold in the district	3	Nil	3
	15	Nil	15

Section F.

PREVALANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of each infectious disease notified from 1939 to 1948.

Diseases	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Small Pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	51	17	9	84	54	34	105	27	22	19
Diphtheria ...	6	17	35	24	16	15	5	8	6	6
Enteric (incl'g Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	1	4	4	4	3	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	—
Ophthalmic Neonatorum ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	10	8	12	5	3	7	3	2	6	3
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	—	—	1	1	2	3	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio Encephalitis ...	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	7	179	28	136	141	116	150	60	109	17
Whooping Cough ...	—	11	35	20	25	54	14	23	29	30
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals ...	82	233	122	277	246	234	281	132	177	76

(Measles and Whooping Cough were not notifiable until October, 1939)

AGE DISTRIBUTION — DIPHTHERIA.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
0—1 year	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—2 "	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—3 "	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
3—4 "	2	2	1	—	1	2	—	1	1	—
4—5 "	1	1	2	4	1	3	—	—	—	—
5—10 "	1	3	10	9	7	7	1	2	—	2
10—15 "	—	3	7	2	2	1	2	1	2	—
15—20 "	1	3	6	5	2	2	1	2	—	—
20—35 "	—	4	4	2	3	—	—	2	1	—
35—45 "	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
45—65 "	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	6	17	35	24	16	15	6	8	6	6
Deaths ...	1	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths in relation to Immunisation during the year 1948.

NOTE: Deaths are those finally registered in the area after allowing for inward and outward transfers.

NOTIFICATIONS			DEATHS		
Age at state of notification	Number of cases notified	Number of cases in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation	Age at Death	Number of Deaths	Number of cases in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation
Under 1 year	Nil	Nil	Under 1 year	Nil	Nil
1 "	Nil	Nil	1 "	Nil	Nil
2 "	Nil	Nil	2 "	Nil	Nil
3 "	Nil	Nil	3 "	Nil	Nil
4 "	Nil	Nil	4 "	Nil	Nil
5-9 "	2	Nil	5-9 "	Nil	Nil
10-14 "	Nil	Nil	10-14 "	Nil	Nil
Totals	2	Nil	Totals	Nil	Nil

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION **Annual Return for the year ended 31st December, 1948**

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION

Number of children at 31st December, 1948, who had at any time before that date completed a course of immunisation, i.e., at any time since the 1st January, 1934.

Age at 31-12-48 i.e., born in year	Under 15						Total
	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	
...	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1939-1943	Under 15
Number immunised	2	105	118	96	43	96	45
Estimated mid-year child population	...						Children 5-14, 2,272.

The above is a table of all children who completed a full course of immunisation under the Council's scheme for protective immunisation against Diphtheria during 1948.

TABLE OF ANALYSIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

Cases notified during the year 1948

Diseases	Total No.	under 1 yr.	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5/10 years	10/15 years	15/20 years	20/35 years	35/45 years	45/65 years	Over 65
Scarlet Fever	19	—	1	1	—	4	11	1	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	4	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Measles8.....	17	—	5	1	2	2	6	—	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough...	30	2	6	1	5	3	10	1	1	—	—	—	1
Meningitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	77	2	12	3	7	9	30	2	3	—	7	1	1
1947.....	177	5	8	25	40	33	45	5	8	4	2	1	1

TUBERCULOSIS

(a) Cases on Register.

	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary				Total
	Male		Female		Male		Female		
Cases on Register 31st Dec., 1948	36	...	26	...	10	...	21	...	93
Cases notified during 1947	4	...	3	...	6	...	3	...	16
Cases added to Register other than by formal notification.....	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—
Totals ...	40	...	29	...	16	...	24	...	109
Cases removed from Register during 1948	5	...	—	...	3	...	3	...	11
Cases remaining in Register on 31st December, 1948	35	...	29	...	13	...	21	...	98

(b) Particulars of persons removed from Register.

	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary				Total
	Male		Female		Male		Female		
Died	2	...	—	...	1	...	—	...	3
Recovered	—	...	—	...	3	...	3	...	6
Left District	2	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	2
Totals ...	4	...	—	...	4	...	3	...	11

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0— 1 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5 " ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 " ...	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—
15—25 " ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 " ...	2	3	1	1	—	—	—	—
35—45 " ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
45—55 " ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 " ...	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Over 65 years	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Totals ...	4	3	6	3	2	—	1	—

Total Number of Cases remaining on the Register at the end of 1948

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Males	...	35	...	13
Females	...	29	...	21
Totals	...	64	...	34
1947	62	...	31

